

chemist, reports he found the poison in the farmer's hair and fingernails.

Blotner was taken violently ill Memorial day. Dr. Hillsman diagnosed his ailment as arsenical poisoning. The young farmer was taken to Buffalo for treatment. Since his return he has been questioned closely by county officials on the theory that an attempt was made on his life.

In Little Valley the Blotner case is discussed in whispers. Everybody has a different theory.

The finger of suspicion has been pointed at three different persons, but county officials admit they have not enough evidence to secure an indictment.

Names that figured prominently in the Buffom case are heard on the lips of villagers.

Some go so far as to say the alleged attempt on Blotner's life was part of a gigantic plot to open the doors of Auburn prison for Cynthia Buffom.

It is argued that if a successor to the Buffoms on the "poison farm" were stricken with arsenic, it would tend to prove the farm contained the poison in some form that finds its way into the bodies of tenants and that Mrs. Buffom is innocent of murder.

County officials have had tests made of the water, wall paper and vegetation on the place, but no trace of arsenic has been found.

Blotner resents visits from inquisitive persons. He tells newspapermen bluntly to get off his property.

While he is incapacitated Mrs. Blotner takes care of the farm and the cows that graze on the hillside.

Farmers passing over the road that passes the farm look up at the house

in much the same way children scan a "haunted" house.

They are eager to have the mystery cleared and eager to assist District Attorney Archie Laidlaw and Sheriff Charles Nicholas. The offices of the officials are flooded with stories about the "poison farm." Some are being investigated, while others are considered products of terrorized brains.

Detectives have been brought from other cities to assist in the investigation, but the question still remains unanswered:

What strange agent of death hovers over the "poison farm"?

RICE SOUTHERN STYLE

When rice is prepared in southern fashion, all the grains are kept separate. Slowly add a cup of thoroughly washed rice to a quart of boiling water, which contains two level teaspoons of salt. The boiling should continue all the time the rice is cooking. Stirring is not permitted, as this will break the rice grains. About 20 minutes is sufficient to cook the rice. Pour off all the water from the rice, cover with a cloth and place in a warm part of the stove, so that the grains will swell. To remove the starchy material from the outside of the grains, cooks sometimes turn the cooked rice into a strainer and pour one quart of hot water over it before covering with a cloth and allowing to steam and swell. A cup of raw rice cooked in this way will give over four cups of very white and light boiled rice.

The water drained off from the rice can be used in soap making to save the starch and mineral matter which it contains.

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